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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of Retired United States Air Force Master Sergeant Dr. Roland H. Alexander of Fairview Heights, who passed away on January 26, 2009; and

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WHEREAS, He was born November 29, 1926, in Radford, Virginia; and

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WHEREAS, In 1968, after 21 years in the United States Air Force, Dr. Alexander retired and began another career as an instructor of Vocational Electronics at East St. Louis Senior High School in East St. Louis; from 1971 to 1979, he earned three degrees from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale: a B.S. in Technical Education, an M.S. in Occupational Education, and a Ph.D. in Education; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Alexander retired from School District 189 as System Director of the East St. Louis Community College and Lovejoy Regional Vocation System; during his tenure, he earned numerous awards and teaching honors; and

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WHEREAS, His professional affiliations were many, including the National and Illinois Councils of Local Administrators, Phi Delta Kappa, and the Southern Illinois

1 Occupational Leaders, where he served as president; in addition
2 to his educational pursuits, Dr. Alexander was an active member
3 of Southern Cross Masonic Lodge 112 Free and Accepted Masons,
4 Prince Hall Affiliated; he was a past Commander-In-Chief of
5 Tyree Consistory 64, Scottish Rite of Free Masons, Northern
6 Jurisdiction, where he received the 33 degree for exceptional
7 service; and he also served as Potentate of Aahmes Temple 132
8 Shriners in East St. Louis; and

9 WHEREAS, Dr. Alexander was preceded in death by his
10 parents, Muriel Douglas and Lillie Clark Alexander; his
11 brothers, Tyree and Clarence Alexander; his sisters, Helen
12 Alexander and Millicent Connor; and his two foster brothers,
13 Douglas and Joseph Delaney; and

14 WHEREAS, Dr. Alexander is survived by his loving wife of
15 more than 54 years, Joyce, nee Williams, Alexander; his sons,
16 Derek and Robert Alexander; his sister, Serena A. Twyman; his
17 brothers, Billie (Queen) Alexander and George Alexander; his
18 sister-in-law, Catherine Delaney; his sisters-in-law, Emma
19 Hopkins, Ramona Herte, and Jenette McKnight; his six endeared
20 brothers-in-law in the Williams family; and a host of nieces,
21 nephews, other relatives, and many friends who are all deeply
22 saddened by his passing; therefore, be it

23 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL

1 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn, along with
2 his family and friends, the passing of Dr. Roland Alexander;
3 and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
5 presented to the family of Dr. Roland Alexander as a symbol of
6 our sincere sympathy.